8th July T>z COMPLAINTS OF THE COUNCIL OF WAR

The Council of War of the fleet mate great complaint that the ships are ill manned because of the monstrous abuse of the press-masters, who have furnished men of all occupations, of whom some did not know a rope and were never out at sea, while they let all the good men go at 2os a piece When they looked for a supply in the west, those of Dorsetshire sent not a man bat all were either discharged underhand by the press-master or made a jest of the press

THE FLEET E^TER PLYMOUTH

The fleet are all come together safe to Plymouth, though as they were athwart the Bolt, three leagues short of Plymouth, a sudden storm overtook them with infinite lightning and thunder, and great wind, with the night exceeding dark save when the flashes of lightning came Nevertheless God so blessed them that not so much as a boat miscarried*

THE FLEET SAILS

The fleet sailed from Plymouth two days since with a fair wind

VAGRANTS TO BE IMPRESTED

The sheriffs and justices of Middlesex, Surrey and Kent are now bidden to aid the Lord Mayor to levy the 700 men for Picardy of the masterless men and such as have served in the wars, which will be a great ease and good to the country to be rid of those kind of people And because they are more narrowly looked into by the provost marshals within the City than in the suburbs, the justices shall confer with the Lord Mayor that search may be made in the City, the suburbs and the counties at one time Moreover standing watches shall be kept for the apprehending of masterless men,

soldiers and vagrant persons, and as many as shall be taken shall be bestowed in Bridewell.

i6th July THE VAGRANTS

Up to this time the Lord Mayor hath taken but eighty men, for the most part base persons and without apparel. It is not the intention of the Council that the City should be at charge to apparel them, but since the Lord Mayor may thmlc it very